



Regional Service Council Minutes Region 5

Meeting Date: June 13, 2008

Meeting Location: Wabash Valley Hospital
North River Road
West Lafayette, IN 47906

Council Members Present: Gilbert Smith, Regional Manager; Elva James, Director Benton County DCS; Coleen Hamrick, Tippecanoe County CASA Director; Kathy Shank, FCM Carroll County DCS; Barbara Bedrick, Director White County DCS; Cathy Booe, FCM Supervisor, Fountain County DCS; Pam Crum, Foster Parent; Judge John Rader, Warren County and Judge Faith Graham, Tippecanoe County for Judge Loretta Rush.

Council Members Absent: Jan Mullen, Director Carroll and Clinton County DCS; and Judge Henderson, Fountain County.

Others In Attendance: Sonya Janssen, Director Warren County DCS; Cindy Mason, Director Fountain County DCS; Angela Smith Grossman, Director Tippecanoe County DCS; Mary Jo Cuculic, Angie Guimond, Sarah Sailors, Rhonda Friend, and Laura Zimmerman, FCM Supervisors, Tippecanoe County; Sandy Lock, Clinton County FCM Supervisor; Landra Talbot, Clinton County FCM; Autumn Badger, Warren County FCM; Sherri Moore, Wabash Valley Hospital; Scott Stewart, George Junior Republic of Indiana.

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to Order at: 7:30 am

1. Minutes from April 25, 2008.
2. Community Partners report – Sherry reported the following numbers for referrals:
 - Benton County had 29 referrals and used \$2477.55 of flex money
 - Carroll County had 41 referrals and used \$3452.83 of flex money
 - Clinton County had 27 referrals and used \$1216.00 of flex money
 - Fountain County had 42 referrals and used \$690.00 of flex money
 - Tippecanoe County had 238 referrals and used \$23,309.13 of flex money

- Warren County had 24 referrals and used \$986.66 flex money
- White County had 15 referrals and used \$3800.00 flex money

Sherri asked if in the case of sexual abuse it was felt additional sessions were necessary, would the Regional Service Council approve payment for up to six additional sessions. Motion was made by Judge Rader, seconded by Elva James. All agreed. Motion passed.

3. Top Three Practice Indicators, Sandy Lock – The top three priority practice indicators are increasing relative placement (CHINS Placement in County), increase in absence of repeat maltreatment (Trended Repeat Maltreatment) and decrease in time to permanency (Finalized Adoption Rates and Reunification Rates). These are the three that have been identified by Director Payne and are being watched closely. When Director Payne sees significant movement in these top three he will look more closely at the next six which are Length of Stay in Out of Home Placements, Average Number of Placement Moves, Locally Placed CHINS, Visitation and Contacts, Sibling Placement Report and Initial Assessment and Use of Substitute Care. The Priority Reports are very accurate. As a Region we are a little below the state average in some areas and higher in many. Overall we are doing pretty well.
4. Practice Indicator Reports will be sent by email later today. Sandy Lock said that Gil saw from the beginning how important these reports were going to be. Because of this our Region is ahead in a lot of areas. In the next 12 months it will look like our Region isn't making as much progress as some other Regions but that will be because we are already there.
5. Angela Smith Grossman reported PEDs training went very well. It was one of the largest gatherings so far with a good sampling of DCS staff along with law enforcement and a couple of nurses. Dr. Hibbard helped outline the steps to take, protocol to make good referrals, when to refer and what questions to ask. It was a very beneficial training.
6. IV-B FAKT update – We have \$186,000 allocated for foster, adoption and kinship training. As a Region we had debated over whether to allocate these funds because we had no control over how they would be spent. It looks like we will be able to access this money to put to use where it will be more beneficial for training.
7. Practice Reform Updates – Landra Talbot reported that Region 5 will be 100% trained in facilitation by July 1st. Our next big training will be Planning and Intervening. We are 100% done with Teaming and Engaging training and Assessment training.
8. New Regional Service Council Membership and Policy – Beginning July 1st there will be a change in membership. There will be a vice chairperson, one additional FCM supervisor, an additional FCM, an additional foster parent

and a prosecuting attorney or designee. There will also be one individual age 16-25 years who is or has received services and one parent of a child who is receiving or has received services. We will need to try to maintain a balance of representation of the counties in the Region. Autumn Badger from Warren County fills the spot of the second Family Case Manager on the Council. Once we have all of our positions filled we will select a vice chairperson. This will be possibly at the August meeting but if not, then at the October meeting. Meeting frequency has been changed to at least quarterly. A quorum may be met by having some members join the meeting by telephone. At least four voting members of the Council must be physically present to conduct business.

9. Barb Bedrick, White County requests – Barb has about \$40,000 of funds that rolled over from last year that she didn't receive until March 21, 2008. She would like to give \$10,000 to Hartford House. White County uses Hartford House for sexual abuse interviewing and would like to contribute to their upkeep. She would also like to send at least two more caseworkers and someone from law enforcement to the WL training. She would also like to give \$10,000 for start up of the Imagination Library. This is a program to send a book a month to children through age 5 who are enrolled to encourage reading. The local Kiwanis will be assisting and White County United Way will be the fiscal agent. The United Way has wanted to do this program and would be willing to put money in the budget for next year but this is the only year we will be able to give this much money for start up. There will be a set number of children served and a waiting list if the requests exceed that number. Motion was made and passed.
10. Dismissal of Court Representatives - Court representatives were dismissed to prepare for provider presentations.
11. Provider Presentation –
 - George Junior Republic of Indiana – Scott Stewart

Next Meeting Date, Time and Location: The next meeting will be August 29, 2008, at 7:30 a.m. at the Wabash Valley Hospital on North River Road in West Lafayette.

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:20 am.